TRANSLATION TSURARA
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SCANS/QC TSURARA
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闇は集う
DARKNESS GATHERS

CHAPTER 3 FEAST OF DARKNESS

KEFK? GRAB
STOP IT KAZUYA!
YOU'RE CHOKING ME.....! I CAN'T BREATHE...
TAKAMURA-SENPAI.....!
SAN

WAIT!
IT'S YOUR TURN
haa
MORIOKA HITOMI-SAN
DON'T WORRY, FOR YOU SEE, "TIME" HAS NO MEANING HERE
"UNTIL IT'S YOUR TURN"...
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP ME HERE WAITING SO RUDELY?
LET ME GO FIRST!
THERE MUST BE A MISTAKE, I'M NOT EVEN DEAD
.....!
IF YOU GET BORED WHILE YOU WAIT, YOU CAN ALWAYS GO PLAY WITH THE DEMONS
THOUGH.
WHA
....
HOW, PLEASE
MORIOKA HITOMI-SAN

I... JOINED THE BIOLOGY CLUB AT THE END OF MY FRESHMAN YEAR.
BECAUSE AT THE TIME THEY WERE KEEPING ANIMALS IN THE CLUB ROOM ON CAMPUS
AH, I'M SORRY
I LOVED ANIMALS
BUT MY MOTHER HAS AN ALLERGY TO THEM AND I WASN'T ALLOWED TO KEEP ANY PETS—.
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT—
NOT AT ALL
I WANT TO HEAR EVERYTHING THAT YOU WANT TO TELL ME
LIKE I SAID BEFORE, IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, "TIME" IS OF NO CONSEQUENCE
I THINK THE TRIGGER FOR "THAT-" WAS PROBABLY SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED ON THE DAY OF THE CLOSING CEREMONY
THINKING BACK NOW—
DING DONG

AAAH-- THAT CLOSING CEREMONY WAS A PAIN TO SIT THROUGH
THE PRINCIPAL'S SPEECH WAS REALLY LONG THIS YEAR
THE TEACHERS WOULD NEVER HAVE NOTICED, WOULD THEY KAZUYA?
WELL IT'S BECAUSE YOU SAT UP FRONT
IF YOU'D HAVE SAT FARTHER BACK YOU COULD HAVE SLEPT OR TALKED TO YOUR FRIENDS
ARE YOU GOING TO LECTURE ME TOO?
HEY, I DON'T HAVE ANY HOMEWORK OVER SPRING BREAK, HOW COOL IS THAT?!
LUCKY BASTARD! YOU'VE GOT IT EASY
I'VE GOT HOMEWORK IN LIKE... EVERYTHING!
WELL WHATEVER
LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER, HITOMI
AH, I'VE GOTTA PASS I HAVE SOMETHING I NEED TO DO

ANIMALS?
I'M IN CHARGE OF THE ANIMALS OVER THE WHOLE BREAK
SORRY, CAN'T . . .
THEN, HOW ABOUT GOING WITH ME TOMORROW?
WHAT THE . . . CAN'T BE HELPED THEN
THAT'S RIGHT
THE BIOLOGY CLUB'S ROOM HAS BIRDS, RATS, AND RABBITS
THEY'RE REALLY CUTE
AND LATELY I'VE BEEN TENDING TO THEM
ISN'T THAT STUPID?
YOU JUST FEED THEM THEIR FOOD AND CLEAN UP THEIR MESSES, DON'T YOU?
YOU'RE JUST PUTTING HUMAN EMOTIONS ON SIMPLE ANIMAL GREED!
YEP
TRUSTING EYES!?
IT'S KIND OF AMAZING, HOW THEY LOOK TO ME WITH SUCH TRUSTING EYES
<SFX> SLUMP

HOW COME YOU HAVE TO DO IT ALONE—?
COULDN'T YOU SWITCH OFF WITH ONE OF THEM?
THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE IN THE BIOLOGY CLUB AREN'T THERE?
GOOD LUCK, DOESN'T SEEM LIKE MUCH OF A VACATION THOUGH
WELL THEN YOU'RE COMING TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY AFTER TOMORROW?
SHUT UP ALREADY
SO STOP COM-PLAINING ABOUT IT
I'M DOING IT FROM TOMORROW ON BECAUSE I WANTED TO
I WASN'T COUNTING ON YOU WANTING TO HELP OR ANYTHING ANYWAY
ALRIGHT GEEZ NOW LAY OFF!
<SFX > SLAM
THE PRESIDENT OF THE CLUB COMES EVERY DAY
AND I'M NOT ALONE
SENPAI'S NOT THE SORT OF GUY SOMEONE LIKE YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND!
"TAKA-MURA" OR SOME-THING
THAT GOODY-TWO-SHOES, BEST-GRADES-AROUND HONOR STUDENT
OH, THAT GUY, HUH?
THE PRESIDENT—?

I NEVER THOUGHT YOU WENT FOR THAT TYPE
BUT YOU'RE REALLY INTO THAT SNOB.
THAT SNOB'S A HUNDRED TIMES BETTER THAN A LOSER LIKE YOU KAZUYA
HEY...
THIS WHOLE ANIMAL-STORY
IT'S JUST AN EXCUSE FOR A DATE EVERY DAY, ISN'T IT?
WHAT THE
I GET IT, I GET IT
THIS "ANNOY-ANCE" WILL JUST DIS-APPEAR
HANG ON
KAZUYA!
WHAT'S WITH HIM?

chirp
chirp
WHY IS IT THAT KAZUYA CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW CUTE THESE LITTLE GUYS ARE?
THEY REALLY ARE CUTE
GEEEEEZ, SHUT UP ALREADY!!
TRUSTING EYES? YOU'RE JUST IMAGINING IT! YOU JUST BRING THEM THEIR FOOD, DON'T YOU?

I CAN DO IT MYSELF...
OH I'M SORRY TAKAMURA-SENPAI
thunk
thunk
WE DON'T WANT TO SCARE THEM
THE ANIMALS ARE ALL QUITE TIMID SO BE CAREFUL
I-I'M SORRY
NOW NOW, I BROUGHT YOU A NICE BIT OF CABBAGE
THE BUDGIES ARE MIMICKING YOUR WORDS, HITOMI-CHAN
flap flap
ehhh
I'M SORRY I'M SORRY
AH
DOES THIS MEAN I'VE ALREADY MADE A BIG MISTAKE THEN?
ha ha

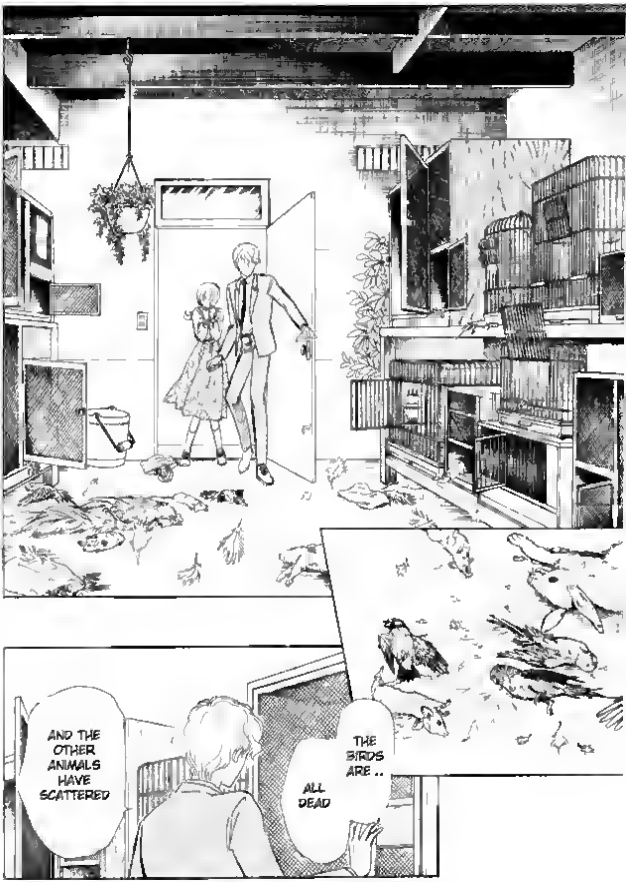
SO I USUALLY LOOK AFTER THEM ALONE
THE OTHER CLUB MEMBERS AREN'T INTERESTED
THEY SEEM REALLY TO LIKE YOU, DON'T THEY SENPAI?
...OH
snuggle snuggle
THAT'S WHY
YOU'RE SO PASSIONATE ABOUT THE CLUB
I WAS SO HAPPY WHEN YOU JOINED, HITOMI-CHAN
I JUST... REALLY LOVE ANIMALS
NOT AT ALL....
UMM, HOW MUCH FOOD DO THE RATS GET...?
GEEZ, YOU CAN CLIMB, BUT NOT ON ME! YOU CAN'T JUST GO WHEREVER YOU WANT, CAN YOU?
AFTER WASHING THE CAGES, TAKE THEM OUTSIDE TO DRY IN THE SUNLIGHT

GREAT JOB HITOMI-CHAN. LET'S WALK BACK TOGETHER.
WELL GUYS? FEEL BETTER NOW, DON'T YOU---?
CLEANING, EXERCIZE AND FEEDING'S FINISHED
phew
SO YOUR MOTHER IS ALLERGIC TO ANIMALS, HITOMI-CHAN?
IT'S ALRIGHT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I'D LIKE TO TREAT YOU TO SOME CAKE.
EEH.. BUT SENPAI, YOU LIVE IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION..
I HAVE THE SAME PROBLEM. MY PARENTS HATE ANIMALS
SO PETS ARE A DEFINITE NO-GO.
YES
IF NOT FOR THAT, I'D BE ABLE TO HAVE PETS OF MY OWN
RIGHT! THAT'S JUST LIKE WHAT I DID!
AND THEN WHEN I WENT BACK TO THE PLACE I FIRST FOUND THEM AND THEY WERE GONE I WAS SO SAD.
BUT WHEN I WAS LITTLE I MADE FRIENDS WITH MORE STRAY CATS THAN I CAN COUNT

SENPAI, THANK YOU IT WAS DELICIOUS!
I'M SORRY FOR HAVING YOU COME OUT ALL THIS WAY...
THE TRUTH IS I HAD INTENDED TO BRIBE YOU
TO PAY YOU OFF FOR YOUR TROUBLE IN COMING TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY OVER THE VACATION
THERE'S NO NEED
I'LL BE THERE WITH BELLS ON
SORRY ABOUT THAT, I'M COUNTING ON YOU
...
GOOD-BYE
SEE YA...
I'M OFF!
BUT DON'T FORGET TO STUDY TOO...
HITOMI! IT'S VERY NICE THAT YOU'RE TAKING CARE OF ANIMALS EVERY DAY

KAZUYA
YOU'RE NOT TAKING CARE OF THOSE ANIMALS ALL DAY ARE YOU? WHEN YOU'RE DONE MAYBE WE COULD..
SO YOU ARE GOING?
IF YOU WANT TO STUDY YOU SHOULD ASK TAKAMURA INSTEAD.
BUT MAYBE WE COULD DO IT TOGETHER
YOU'RE KIDDING!
MAYBE I WON'T THOUGH
SHHH! WHEN I'M DONE I'M GOING TO STUDY STRAIGHT AWAY
PSHK
THIS ISN'T MY CONCERN ANYWAY
OH WELL--
S L A M
WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?
NO WAY-----
HE'S PROBABLY JUST HAVING FUN AT MY EXPENSE AS USUAL, HUH?
COULD IT BE
THAT HE'S JEALOUS?

TAKAMURA-SENPAI, GOOD MORNING!
HEY, 'MORNING!
GASP
I BROUGHT SOME VEGETABLES TODAY, ONLY A LITTLE THOUGH
THANKS I'M SURE THEY'LL LOVE THEM!
THE DOOR'S OPEN
creak
KYAAA...!


AND THE OTHER ANIMALS HAVE SCATTERED
THE BIRDS ARE .. ALL DEAD

S—SENPAI OVER THERE!
THIS WAS A HUMAN'S DOING—.
THIS WASN'T STRAY DOGS, THERE ARE NO WOUNDS ON ANY OF THEM
...NO
shake
shake
HOW CRUEL ...
C...COULD IT HAVE BEEN STRAY DOGS...?
DEAR HONOR STUDENT PRESIDENT, SO WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT HOW MUCH I HATE YOU? I'D LOVE TO SEE YOUR GRIEF-STRICKEN REACTION
SENPAI
WHAT ON EARTH WERE THEY THINKING ...?
I'LL NEVER FORGET SOMETHING LIKE THIS! THE ANIMALS WERE TOTALLY INNOCENT! THEY DIDN'T DESERVE THIS.
CRUMPLE

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... I CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE SO CRUEL COULD EVEN EXIST.....
DON'T FEEL BAD. I LEFT THE BUILDING UNLOCKED SO IT'S MY OWN FAULT.
I ALREADY ALERTED THE POLICE BUT...
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THE ANIMALS. I SHOULD HAVE LOCKED THE DOOR AS SOON AS WE LEFT.

IT COULDN'T BE... COULD IT?
KAZUYA COULD NEVER DO SUCH A THING
THAT LOOKED LIKE KAZUYA
JUST NOW
slip
IT'S NO USE. HE'S TERRIFIED
COME HERE, LOOK
YOU LIKE LETTUCE LEAVE DON'T YOU?

reach..
HE'S LEARNED TO DISTRUST HUMANS
THAT'S WHY HE WON'T COME NEAR YOU..
THERE THERE
IT'S ALRIGHT NOW.
start
NOTHING WILL HURT YOU
nibble
HE'S EATING
HE'S EATING IT...

THANK GOODNESS

GASA

clatter
clatter
GACHA
squeek
squeek

HEY, WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT'S WRONG?
KAZUYA
SO BRIGHT
kacha
YOU REALLY LOOK SICK!
IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL, YOU SHOULDN'T GO TO SCHOOL.
TURN
WAIT
I CAN'T DO THAT
THE ANIMALS ARE WAITING FOR ME
IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU DIDN'T GO.

COULD IT BE HE'S JUST WORRIED ABOUT ME?

KAZUYA
HE'S ACTING SO STRANGELY
WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE?
TAKA-MURA-SENPAI .....
AH SENPAI MUST ALREADY BE HERE
SENPA...!?
BROKEN
THE LOCK WAS ..

SO YOU THINK A LOCK CAN KEEP ME OUT? I'M GOING TO KILL THEM ALL NOW. AND THEN I'M COMING FOR YOU!
AND THERE WAS ANOTHER NOTE
HE GOT THEM ALL
THIS TIME IT WAS THE SURVIVORS
IT'S SO CRUEL!
WHO WOULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...?
WHY WHY WHY
IF THAT'S SO THEN MAYBE AFTER THAT...
LAST NIGHT WHILE THE POLICE PATROL REPORTED NOTHING AT ALL OUT OF THE ORDINARY
I'M NOT GOING TO LET HIM GET AWAY WITH THIS!
THE CULPRIT WILL COME AGAIN TONIGHT, WON'T HE?
I'M GOING TO STAY HERE TONIGHT AND CATCH HIM IN THE ACT!
jump

AS LONG AS THE VICTIMS ARE ONLY ANIMALS THEY WON'T WASTE THEIR TIME ON AN INVEST-IGATION
IT WON'T WORK
IT'S DANGER-OUS! WE CAN TELL THE POLICE.
JUST LEAVE THINGS TO THE PRO-FESS-IONALS
YOU CAN'T...
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I WANT TO ASK OF YOU, HITOMI-CHAN
BUT...
SENPAI, I'M COMING WITH YOU
AND THE THREAT IS WRITTEN ON A WORD-PROCESSOR SO THEY CAN'T TRACE THE HANDWRITING...
crumple
THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO DO BUT HANDLE THINGS MYSELF
SO THAT NO ONE FINDS OUT YOU'LL BE HERE WAITING FOR THEM...
THEN YOU'RE GOING TO DO THIS WITHOUT TELLING ANYONE AT ALL?
I WANT YOU TO KEEP ALL OF THIS A SECRET FOR ME
YOU CAN'T DON'T SAY SUCH FOOLISH THINGS
YOU THINK THE CRIMINAL IS...
...THEN
I NEVER THOUGHT ANYONE WOULD BE WILLING TO GO THIS FAR...
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING LIKE IT
THERE'S A DES-PERATE FEELING ABOUT ALL THIS
dokin
YES..
I THINK IT MIGHT BE ANOTHER STUDENT AT OUR SCHOOL
I DIDN'T WANT TO CONSIDER IT BUT

I NEVER THOUGHT YOU WNET FOR THAT TYPE BUT YOU'RE REALLY INTO THAT SNOB
dokin
BUT IT COULDN'T BE ..
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES ..
UNTIL NOW SENPAI'S BEEN CARING FOR THE ANIMALS HIMSELF..!
KAZUYA DOES ACT LIKE HE HATES SENPAI
DEAR HONOR STUDENT PRESIDENT, SO WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT HOW MUCH I HATE YOU?
THE FORM I SAW YESTERDAY
WAS THAT REALLY KAZUYA?
I THINK IT MIGHT BE ANOTHER STUDENT AT OUR SCHOOL
IT COULD JUST HAVE BEEN VANITY BUT COULD HE BE OUT TO GET SENPAI..?
COULD IT BE..
THE ANIMALS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES WAITING FOR YOU, AM I RIGHT?
BETTER GET TO SCHOOL

AND THEN I'M COMING FOR YOU.
STOP IT KAZUYA!
KAZUYA HAS A WORD PROCESSOR TOO
HE BOUGHT IT WITH MONEY FROM HIS PART-TIME JOB
COULD I SPEAK TO KAZUYA ...?
HELLO. YES, IT'S HITOMI
EEH?
HE JUST LEFT?
KAZUYA?
TA TAKAMURA-SENPAI?
ISN'T ANYONE HERE?
COULD IT BE THAT...
OH PLEASE
DON'T LET IT BE TOO LATE!
haa...

THE LIGHT...
slip
SENPAI?
TAKAMURA-SENPAI?
sacha
AAAAAAAAAH!
<SFX> GRAB
squeeze
IT HURTS, I CAN'T BREATHE...
TAKAMURA-SENPAI...!

I GUESS I WAS HAPPY THAT KAZUYA WAS JEALOUS ABOUT IT ALL TOO
AND I DID HARBOR FEELINGS FOR SENPAI, BUT...
I WAS HAVING SO MUCH FUN WITH THE ANIMALS
C...COULD HE HAVE...KILLED SENPAI TOO...?
BUT... THE ANIMALS AND
I NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD SO SO FAR WITH IT THOUGH
BUT I CAN'T PROMISE YOU THAT YOU'D LIKE THE RESULT
YOU CAN RETURN TO THE PATH YOU WERE ON BUT...
I... FELT SO POSITIVELY ABOUT HIM
IT WAS .
MY OWN FAULT
I DON'T WAN KAZUYA TO TAKE THIS ANY FARTHER THAN HE ALREADY HAS--!
I . I'LL DO ANYTHING
I HAVE TO STOP KAZUYA!!

I UNDER-STAND
TO THE POINT WHERE YOU WERE LOST---
RETURN
I FEEL
FAINT—
IT HURTS
!
PAA
<SFX> SQUEEZE
cough cough
SHOVE
Jerk

THEN...
THE ONE TRYING TO KILL ME WAS...
HUH?
HITOMI, ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
TAKAMURA-SENPAI?
...YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR BASTARD...!
<SFX> CLATTER
<SFX> SLAM

AND HE WAS GOING TO KILL YOU TOO...!
AND HE WROTE ALL OF THOSE THREATENING NOTES ON A WORD PROCESSOR
HE KILLED THE ANIMALS!
HITOMI! IT'S HIM!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS!?
STAGGER
HOW...
CAN YOU BE SO SURE OF ALL THAT?
BE-CAUSE I...
BECAUSE I LOVE HITOMI
AND I'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO CONFESS IT TO HER ALL THIS TIME
SO I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING HITOMI IN SECRET FROM THE START
KAZUYA

HEEH ....
WHAT FOR?
AND THEN AFTER THE ANIMALS WERE KILLED ..
YOU AND HITOMI DUG THE GRAVE FOR THEM
I WAS WATCHING THEN
FOR THAT?
THAT SMILE
AND YOU SMILED THAT SAME SMILE?
LIPI SEEMED SO HAPPY THERE WITH HITOMI BY THAT GRAVESIDE
I... I CAN'T BELIEVE IT
SENPAI SEEMED TO FEEL SO BADLY ABOUT THOSE ANIMALS
THAT SO...?
YOU SAW THEN?
BUT WILL ANYONE ELSE BELIEVE YOU?
YOU'VE GOT NO EVIDENCE AT ALL
OH YES I DO

IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY
pull
YOU CAN STILL SEE YOUR THREAT LETTERS IN THE RIBBON
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS?
I WENT THROUGH THE TRASH AT YOUR HOUSE AND FOUND THE OLD RIBBON
THOSE WORD-PROCESSOR THREATS YOU THREW OUT
THERE'S NOTHING SPECIAL ABOUT THEM... JUST A NORMAL INK RIBBON ON NORMAL PAPER
I DIDN'T THROW OUT THAT RIBBON YET...
YOU'RE LYING!
<T/N> *SIRENS
FUAAN
FUAAN
FUAAN*
I'VE ALREADY CALLED THE AUTHORITIES
!
WELL THEN, I GUESS THAT CONFESSION'S ENOUGH TO GET A WARRANT FOR THE POLICE TO GO IN AND LOOK FOR THE REAL THING THEN, ISN'T IT?
"YET"?
THEN IT'S STILL IN THE WORD PROCESSOR

SORRY IF I MAKE YOU MISS CURFEW, HITOMI
THOUGH UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES IT MIGHT TAKE A FIT OF CONVINCING BEFORE THEY'LL LISTEN TO US...
KAZUYA.
THE ONE WHO HAS TO APOLOGIZE IS ME
FUAAN
WHY...? WHY DID YOU DO IT?
TAKAMURA-SENPAI
WHY? DON'T YOU LOVE THE ANIMALS!?
FUAAN
FUAAN
THOSE EYES...
I LOVE...
I ESPECIALLY LOVE THE MOMENT WHEN THE TRUST IN THEIR EYES TURNS TO TERROR AS YOU KILL THEM
THOSE SWEET AND TRUSTING EYES THEY TURN TOWARDS HUMANS..
THE ONLY REASON I LOVE THEM, IS FOR THOSE EYES...

AS I'VE GOTTEN OLDER, I'VE STARTED TO LOSE SATISFACTION IN JUST KILLING SMALL ANIMALS
BUT YOU KNOW
SENPA ..!
SO...
AND NOW THERE ARE NONE LEFT
FROM BIRDS .. TO MICE .. THEN RABBITS.
YOUR EYES...
I LOVE THEM